

MARVEL

OLDER
ZAGARIA
GAPSTUR
DELGADO

STRANGE

Academy

BLOOD
HUNT

3

OF THREE



FRANCO
VILLALBA
DELGADO

RATED T+

IN MEMORIAM

DON PERLIN

1929 - 2024



Marvel pauses to remember longtime penciler, inker and former managing art director Don Perlin, who co-created Moon Knight and was a mainstay on series such as *Defenders*, *Ghost Rider* and *Werewolf by Night*. Born Aug. 27, 1929, in New York City, Perlin studied under Burne Hogarth and attended the Cartoonists and Illustrators School. He began professional work in the late 1940s and would work with Will Eisner on *The Spirit* comics before being drafted in 1953. Perlin wouldn't come back to comics full-time until the 1970s, when Marvel Editor in Chief Roy Thomas recruited him to draw *Werewolf by Night*. In that series, he co-created the vigilante hero Moon Knight with writer Doug Moench. He also co-created Tigra with Tony Isabella and was the longest-running penciler on the *Defenders* series. In the 1980s, he became Marvel's managing art director, working under John Romita Sr. and, among other things, helping oversee the up-and-coming artists in the Romita's Raiders program. He moved on in the 1990s to Acclaim and Valiant comics, where he co-created some of their most important characters. Perlin was well-liked in the comics field and respected for decades of great work. Our hearts go out to his family and all those who knew and loved him.



Welcome to **STRANGE ACADEMY**, where the best and brightest young sorcerers are trained by the greatest magic users in the realm!

Vampires have taken over the Earth, and the students of Strange Academy are dead set on stopping their reign of terror. In their efforts to help, they were led to Madripoor to locate the dark magical tome known as the **DARKHOLD**. When they arrived, they found that the book had been transformed into a young boy. The Darkhold revealed his intentions to use the **MONTESI FORMULA**, an ancient spell that would wipe out every last vampire on Earth—including Strange Academy newcomer **PIA**. Unwilling to let that happen, the students went to stop him but were interrupted by the former guardian of the Darkhold and Strange Academy teacher, **AGATHA HARKNESS**. Harkness wanted to take control of Darkhold, but he fled, kidnapping Pia as well. With no leads on where to look for them, the students accepted the help of their least likely ally **DOCTOR DOOM!**

STRANGE

Academy

BLOOD HUNT



Doyle



Shaylee



Toth



Gus



Germán



Zoe



Pia

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DOCTOR STRANGE created by STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

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MADRIPOOR.

MAYBE I MADE A
MISTAKE IN ATTACKING
THE DARKHOLD
BRAT SO QUICKLY...

OW!
WHERE ARE
YOU TAKING
ME?

WELL, SINCE
YOU'RE SO CONVINCED
YOU VAMPIRES SHOULD
LIVE, PIA...

HIS SORCERY
SKILLS ARE
CHAOTIC AND
OFF THE
CHARTS.

...I FIGURED
WE'D PARTICIPATE
IN A LITTLE
EXPERIMENT...

THERE'S NO WAY
I COULD BEAT
HIM ON MY OWN,
HEAD-TO-HEAD.

I WON'T
MAKE THAT
MISTAKE
AGAIN.







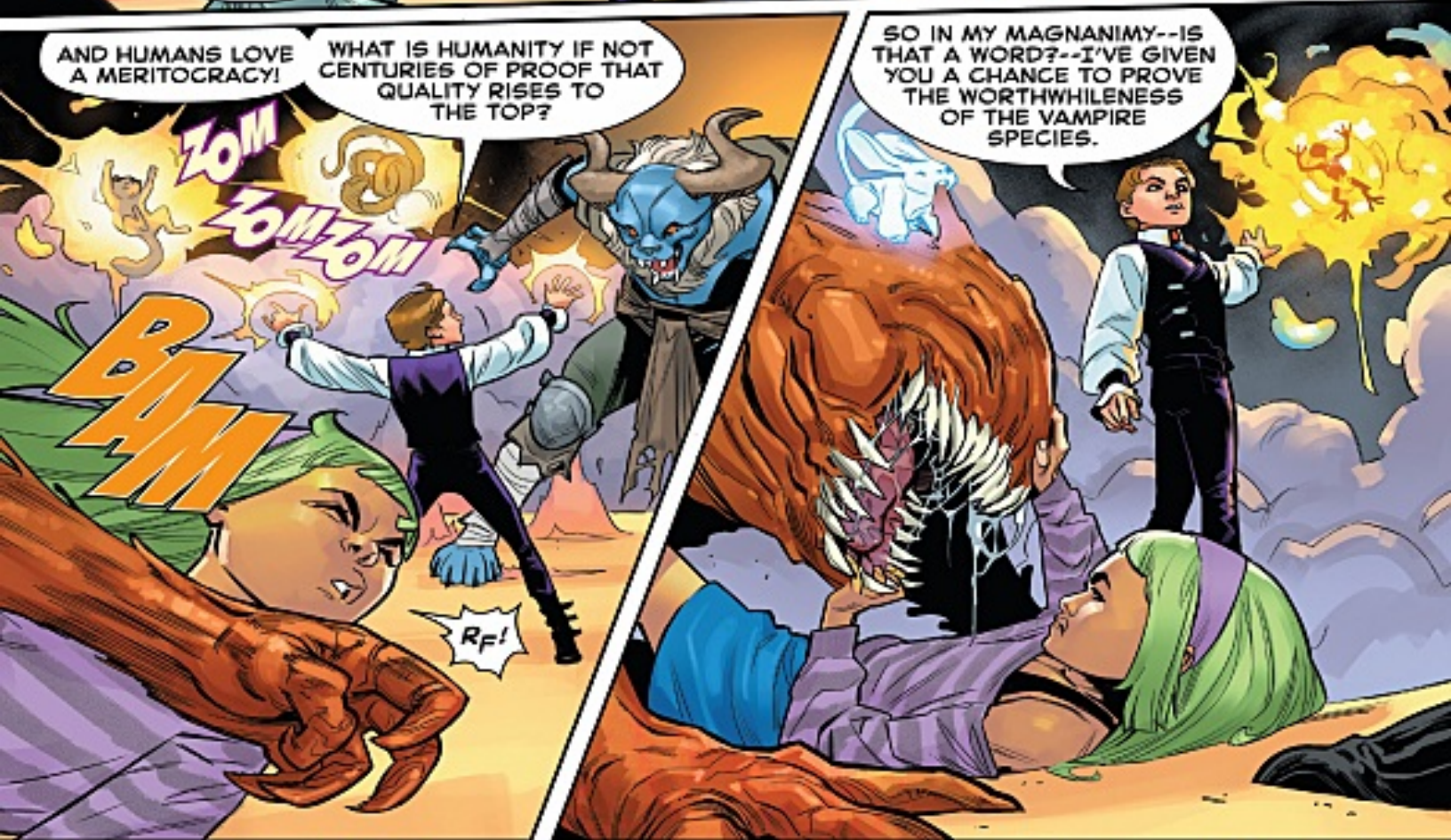
...HELP?

OKAY, IT
HAPPENED
AGAIN.



IT IS
THE HUMAN WAY
TO GIVE SOMEONE
A CHANCE,
NO?

NOT SO
SURE ABOUT
THAT, BRO.



AND HUMANS LOVE
A MERITOCRACY!

WHAT IS HUMANITY IF NOT
CENTURIES OF PROOF THAT
QUALITY RISES TO
THE TOP?

SO IN MY MAGNANIMITY--IS
THAT A WORD?--I'VE GIVEN
YOU A CHANCE TO PROVE
THE WORTHWHILENESS
OF THE VAMPIRE
SPECIES.

Rf!



BUT IT LOOKS LIKE
YOU'RE ABOUT TO FAIL,
WHICH MEANS I'VE
DONE MY DUE
DILIGENCE...

...AND IT'S
TIME TO UNLEASH
THE MONTESI
FO--



THERE
YOU
ARE, MY DEAR
DARKHOLD!



I'VE
BEEN WORRIED
SICK!

AGATHA?!





WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!

BRO-- YOU CAN'T JUST RUN OFF LIKE THAT!

I JUST WANT TO HELP PIA!



HOW ARE YOU GONNA HELP HER IF YOU'RE DEAD?!

I GET IT, MAN. BUT TAKE IT FROM SOMEONE WHO HAS MADE ENOUGH BAD DECISIONS TO FILL SEVERAL SEASONS OF YOUR FAVORITE TELENOVELA...



SOMETIMES WE TELL OURSELVES WE'RE HELPING, BUT WE'RE ACTUALLY JUST PUNISHING OURSELVES...

...WHICH DOESN'T ACTUALLY HELP ANYONE!

YOU'RE RIGHT.

I GOTTA STOP SEEING PIA AS SOMEONE WHO HAS TO BE SAVED FROM MY MISTAKES.



AND GO BACK TO SEEING HER FOR WHAT SHE IS: A FRIEND.

SO WE CAN SHOW UP FOR HER...





NOW'S...

VAM
VAM
VAM



...MY...



I MADE IT!
I'M STILL A BOY!
I CAN...I CAN
DO THIS!

...CHANCE!



HUH?



PIA, WAIT, I...
I'M SCARED!

OF
COURSE
YOU ARE!
YOU'RE FINALLY
POWERLESS.



NO, IT'S THAT...I FINALLY
UNDERSTAND WHAT IT
MEANS TO BE HUMAN!

IT'S NOT
SURVIVAL OF THE
FITTEST.

IT'S THIS...THIS
VULNERABILITY.



I KNOW I'VE
DONE HORRIBLE
THINGS. I KNOW TO
YOU, I'M NOT A BOY,
I'M A MONSTER.
AND IT'S TRUE.

BUT I'M
ALSO A BOY.
AND I JUST WANT
TO LIVE. DO YOU
REMEMBER WHAT
THAT FEELS
LIKE?

OF
COURSE
I DO.



"HOW COULD
I FORGET?"



IT WASN'T
SO LONG
AGO.

I...I'M
SORRY...I'M
SORRY I WAS
SO CRUEL
TO YOU.

THIS MIGHT
BE A HUGE
MISTAKE.



GO AHEAD,
TITO, IT'S ALL
RIGHT.

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?



GIVING YOU
A LITTLE EXTRA
PROTECTION SO YOU
CAN GET YOUR
MAGIC BACK.

WHOA!



BUT DON'T THINK THIS MEANS I TRUST YOU!
I JUST NEED YOUR HELP, SINCE AGATHA IS
SURELY GONNA MURDER ME TOO.

UNDERSTOOD!

UH, SCUSATE
RAGAZZI!

IF I CAN'T
CATCH YOU ALL
BY MYSELF...



...THEN I'LL
JUST MAKE
SOME
HELP!

ABBIAMO UN
PROBLEMA!

AGATHAS?!

Beep



"...NOW!"

HRF!

STAY
BEHIND
ME!

YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND WHAT
YOU ARE DOING, YOUNG
LADY. I WILL SECURE
THE DARKHOLD IF I HAVE
TO GO THROUGH YOU
TO DO IT.

WE HAVE
TO FIND THE REAL
AGATHA!

GREAT!
HOW?!

SHE'S THE
ONLY ONE WHO
CAN USE MAGIC!
THE REST ARE
JUST CRUDE
COPIES!





REGRETTABLE
AS IT IS, IF I
HIT THE LITTLE
VAMPIRE...



...THAT
CREATURE WILL
GO TO HER INSTEAD
OF THE DARKHOLD, AND
THEN I CAN TAKE
MY SHOT!



Ahh!



WHAT
DID YOU
DO?!

HIT YOU
WITH THE SAME
SPELL YOU WERE
AIMING
AT PIA.

THAT'S WHAT
YOU GET FOR
MESSING WITH
MY FRIENDS!



NOW
REJOICE IN MY
MAGNANIMITY...

...AND BE
GONE!



IN FACT, DOYLE AND I WERE THINKING: MAYBE THERE'S A BETTER WAY TO LEARN ABOUT THIS EXISTENCE THAN RUNNING AWAY FROM AGATHA ALL THE TIME.

YEAH, TAKE IT FROM ONE WALKING APOCALYPSE TO ANOTHER--IT'S NOT ABOUT WHAT PEOPLE THINK OF YOU, IT'S ABOUT YOUR CHOICES.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT EXPLORING THAT AS A STUDENT AT STRANGE ACADEMY?



NOT SURE WE HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO OFFER THAT KIND OF DEAL, DOYLE.

I HEAR YOU, BUT WHAT OTHER OPTION IS THERE? LET THE DARK-MAGIC MESSIAH JUST WALK FREE?

BESIDES, WHAT'S ONE MORE RULE BROKEN? AND SPEAKING OF BREAKING RULES...

...GERMAN, YOU GOT THAT COIN DOOM GAVE YOU?



LATER.
IN CASTLE
VON DOOM,
LATVERIA.

DID
DR. STRANGE
APOLOGIZE YET
FOR TRYING TO WIPE
OUT YOUR ENTIRE
SPECIES?

IN HIS
OWN DR. STRANGE
WAY, YEAH. NOT SURE
HOW I FEEL ABOUT
IT YET.



I'M SURE HOW
I FEEL ABOUT IT,
AND HE'S ABOUT
TO FIND OUT!

HEY! THIS ONE'S
FOR ME TO FIGURE
OUT, BUDZO. I'M THE
ONE WHO ALMOST DIED.



YEAH, YOU'RE
RIGHT, YOU'RE
RIGHT! ALTHOUGH
I DID ALMOST
DIE TOO!

JUST
DIFFERENTLY.

NOTHING
WILL EVER
BE THE
SAME
AGAIN.

HUMAN,
FALTINE, FAIRY,
WEIRDWORLDER--
--I WILL
WEAVE THE MANY
COLORS OF OUR MAGIC
TOGETHER IN AN ACT
OF MAGIC NEVER
BEFORE SEEN.

AND MAYBE
THAT'S A
GOOD THING.

I WILL
LEAD OUR
RITUAL.

I WILL
FOCUS OUR
EFFORTS.

I WILL
SAVE THE
WORLD.

ALL I
REQUEST OF
YOU...

WHAT
MATTERS
MOST IS THAT
WE'LL FACE
WHATEVER'S
NEXT...

ENOUGH
PRATTLE! TO YOUR
PLACES, EVERYONE!





...IS
EVERYTHING.

...TOGETHER.

THE END?

BLOOD HUNT

CHECKLIST

JULY

- BLACK PANTHER: BLOOD HUNT #3
- BLOOD HUNTERS #3
- DOCTOR STRANGE #17
- DRACULA: BLOOD HUNT #3
- MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #22
- WEREWOLF BY NIGHT: BLOOD HUNT #1
- AVENGERS #16
- HULK: BLOOD HUNT #1
- UNION JACK THE RIPPER: BLOOD HUNT #3
- WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #3
- AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: BLOOD HUNT #3
- BLOOD HUNTERS #4
- X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT – LAURA KINNEY THE WOLVERINE #1
- **BLOOD HUNT #5**
- **BLOOD HUNT: RED BAND #5**
- FANTASTIC FOUR #22
- MIDNIGHT SONS: BLOOD HUNT #3
- STRANGE ACADEMY: BLOOD HUNT #3
- VENGEANCE OF THE MOON KNIGHT #7
- WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #4

Thank you so much for joining us for these issues of **STRANGE ACADEMY: BLOOD HUNT!** We love these Strange Academy kids, and any chance we have to tell more of their stories we **JUMP** at!

Big thanks to **DANIEL JOSÉ OLDER, LUIGI ZAGARIA, ERIC GAPSTUR, EDGAR DELGADO, and CLAYTON COWLES!!!** They did such a great job with this series--we were super lucky to have them. But we'd be nothing without you wonderful readers picking up these books and enjoying them! We got a letter from one of you that delighted us so we wanted to share it:

Hello, **STRANGE ACADEMY** team,

I'll be honest in saying that **STRANGE ACADEMY: BLOOD HUNT #1** is my first time reading a Strange Academy comic, but it will definitely not be my last. Since I am reading the Blood Hunt storyline, this issue was part of it, and I am very glad that it introduced me to this group! As a soon-to-be teacher, I always love stories that center around school in some way. I don't know why it took me so long **AND** a tie-in storyline to get me to try this book out, but I will definitely be going back and getting caught up on this group! As for the issue itself, I enjoyed it quite a bit. Having the Darkhold manifested into a human child was pretty interesting, and I did not see it coming at all. Really excited to see where this storyline goes and how it further ties in with Blood Hunt. See y'all next month!

Cason Jones
Sulphur Springs, Texas

Thanks for writing in, Cason! Every comic is someone's first, and this is a great reminder of that fact. I hope you have gone back and gotten the rest of **STRANGE ACADEMY!** I wish we could claim the Darkhold manifestation, but that happened in the awesome **CONTEST OF CHAOS** event last year. We just picked up the baton and took it for the next lap of the story race.

This may be the last issue of this miniseries, but we aren't done with **STRANGE ACADEMY.** We are already hard at work on the next story with these kids, but we can't spoil what it is for you yet. If we did, Marvel security would come after us and we'd be doomed. So in the meantime, keep your ear to the ground for news about Doyle, Shaylee, Zoe, Pia, Germán, Toth, Gus, and the rest!

Keep Casting!
Nick Lowe
NY, NY